किया है कि वृक्ष पट्टा योजना के माध्यम से वनरोपण का मामला विचाराधीन है। उड़ीसा में, वृक्ष पट्टा योजना हाल ही में शुरू हुई है लेकिन अभी तक राज्य सरकार द्वारा कोई ब्यौरा नहीं भेजा गया है।

Providing safe drinking water to problem villages

2226. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the problem villages which were identitfied through a survey conducted in 1985 have since been provided with safe drinking water supply;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the Problem Villages which are yet to be provided with safe drinking water supply;

(c) whether Government propose to carry out a fresh survey to identify the Problem Villages which are without a safe drinking water source within 1.6 Km. distance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As at the end of October, 1991, 4953 'No Source' problem villages could not be provided safe drinking water facilities due to limited working season in some states, difficult terrain, physical and financial constraints. All the remaining 'No Source' problem villages will be provided safe drinking water by 31-3-93.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to conduct a survey on status of drinking water in rural habitations covering all aspects of drinking water supply in the rural areas, 'No Source' habitations, partially covered villages/habitations, quality of drinking water, requirement of drinking water for cattle etc.

(e) Does not arise.

2227. [*Transferred to the 17th December,* 1991]

Estimate of total surplus land

2228. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any estimate of total surplus land in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) what steps are taken to distribute the surplus land among the landless people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) According to information received from the States 72.49 lakh acres of land have been declared surplus till September, 1991. State-wise information is given in the annexed Statement (*See* below)

(c) The distribution of surplus land free from litigation and fit for distribution otherwise is made by the State Governments, amongst the eligible rural poor, as per the priorities drawn up by them.

Government of India has laid down policy guidelines and are monitoring the progress of surplus land distribution in the States. A consensus was arrived at during the conference of the Chief Ministers on October 4-5, 1991 at New Delhi that ceiling surplus land which have been taken possession of by the State Government should be distributed among eligible rural poor by 31st March, 1992. Prime Minister has also addressed the concerned Chief Ministers and Governors.

Statement

(Till September, 1991)

States/UTs	Are Declared Surplus (Area in lakh Acres)
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	7.25
2. Assam	6.10
3. Bihar	4.75
4. Gujarat	2.52
5. Haryana	1.21
6. Himachal Pradesh	2.84
7. J & K	4.56
8. Karnataka	2.75
9. Kerala	1.33
10. Madhya Pradesh	2.95
11. Maharashtra	7.04
12. Manipur	0.02
13. Orissa	1.74
14. Punjab	1.38
15. Rajasthan	6.19
16. Tamil Nadu	1.78
17. Tripura	0.02
18. Uttar Pradesh	5.32
19. West Bengal	12.63
20. D&N Haveli	0.09
21. Delhi	0.01
22. Pondicherry	0.02

Regional office of Indian Meteorological Department for Assam

2229. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Regional Office of Indian Meteorological Department in Assam;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Regional Office at Calcutta has to cater to the needs of as many as 11 States of North Eastern Region;

(c) if so, in view of the need for Scientific study of repeated floods and major industries like Tea and Oil in Assam, whether Government proposed to open a Regional Office in Assam;